

DOCKET NO: 282658US8X CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
GABRIELLE NELLES, ET AL. : EXAMINER: ALAN D. DIAMOND
SERIAL NO: 10/799,257 :
FILED: MARCH 12, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1753
FOR: HYBRID SOLAR CELLS WITH :
THERMAL DEPOSITED
SEMICONDUCTIVE OXIDE LAYER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Official Action dated March 2, 2006, Applicants in the above-identified patent application provisionally elect Group I, Claims 1-20 and 25-38, drawn to a method for the production of a hybrid solar cell.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, MPEP §803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be of an overlapping search area.

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Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2006

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully **traverse** the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

However, if the present Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, examination on the merits of the claims of Group I is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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